

IN THE CLAIMS

The status of the claims as presently amended is as follows:

1. (*Currently Amended*) An electronic musical apparatus comprising:

a music playing data extracting device which extracts a music playing data file for controlling a tone generator for generating musical tone signals for a musical performance from a given music work resource including encrypted or unencrypted MIDI or non-MIDI data;

an encrypting device which encrypts ~~said~~ the extracted music playing data file using an encryption key;

a storing device which stores ~~said~~ the encrypted music playing data file;

a decrypting device which decrypts said encrypted music playing data file from said storing device using a decryption key which corresponds to said encryption key; and

an automatic music playing device which plays music of said given music work resource based on ~~said~~ the decrypted music playing data file,

wherein the music playing data file ~~comprises~~ is MIDI data.

2. (*Currently Amended*) A method for ensuring secure use of a music playing data file comprising:

a step of extracting a music playing data file for controlling a tone generator for generating musical tone signals for a musical performance from a given music work resource including encrypted or unencrypted MIDI or non-MIDI data;

a step of encrypting ~~said~~ the extracted music playing data file using an encryption key;

a step of storing said encrypted music playing data file;

a step of decrypting said encrypted music playing data file as stored in ~~said~~ the storing step of storing using a decryption key which corresponds to said encryption key; and

a step of automatically playing music of said given music work resource based on ~~said~~ the decrypted music playing data file,

wherein the music playing data file ~~comprises~~ is MIDI data.

3. (*Previously Presented*) An electronic musical apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said automatic music playing device renders said decrypted music playing data file unutilizable after said music playing device has played music of said given music work resource.

4. (*Previously Presented*) An electronic musical apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said given music work resource is in an encrypted condition, and said music playing data extracting device decrypts said given music work resource in the encrypted condition before extracting said music playing data file.

5. (*Previously Presented*) An electronic musical apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein said given music work resource is in an encrypted condition, and said music playing data extracting device decrypts said given music work resource in the encrypted condition before extracting said music playing data file.

6. (*Previously Presented*) An electronic musical apparatus as claimed in claim 5, wherein said music playing data extracting device renders said decrypted given music work resource unutilizable after said music playing data extracting device has extracted said music playing data file from said encrypted given music work resource.

7. (*Currently Amended*) A storage device storing a computer program for ensuring secure use of a music playing data file, said program comprising program instructions for a computer to execute:

a step of extracting a music playing data file for controlling a tone generator for generating musical tone signals for a musical performance from a given music work resource including encrypted or unencrypted MIDI or non-MIDI data;

a step of encrypting ~~said the~~ extracted music playing data file using an encryption key;
and

a step of storing ~~said the~~ encrypted music playing data file,
wherein the music playing data file ~~comprises is~~ MIDI data.

8. (*Currently Amended*) An electronic musical apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said automatic music playing device includes [[a]] the tone generator that generates musical tone signals based on the MIDI data file that is decrypted.

9. (*Previously Presented*) A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the step of automatically playing music of said given music work resource includes generating musical tone signals based on the MIDI data file that is decrypted.

10. (*Previously Presented*) A storage device as claimed in claim 7, further including the step of automatically playing music of said given music work resource based on said decrypted music playing data file.

11. (*Previously Presented*) A storage device as claimed in claim 10, wherein the step of automatically playing music of said given music work resource includes generating musical tone signals based on the MIDI data file that is decrypted.

12. (*New*) An electronic musical apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said storing device is a memory card for storing said encrypted music playing data file, and wherein said decrypted music playing data file is further encrypted by a further encrypting device and stored in a further storing device, and said encrypted music playing data file stored in said memory card is deleted as said further encrypted music playing data file is stored in said further storing device.

13. (*New*) A method as claimed in claim 2, wherein said step of storing stores said encrypted music playing data file in a memory card, the method further comprising:

- a step of further encrypting said decrypted music playing data file;
- a step of further storing said further encrypted music playing data file; and
- a step of deleting said encrypted music playing data file stored in said memory card as said further encrypted music playing data file is stored.

14. (*New*) A storage device as claimed in claim 7, wherein the storing step stores said encrypted music playing data file in a memory card, wherein said program further includes program instructions to execute:

- a step of decrypting said encrypted music playing data file as stored in said storing step using a decryption key which corresponds to said encryption key;
- a step of further encrypting said decrypted music playing data file;
- a step of further storing said further encrypted music playing data file; and
- a step of deleting said encrypted music playing data file stored in said memory card as said further encrypted music playing data file is stored.